

Daniel A. Goonan
Chief of Department



Brendan M. Burns
Assistant Chief

City of Manchester

Fire Department

PRESS RELEASE

Incident Type: Water Rescue

Date: April 2, 2020

Address: Merrimack River (So. Commercial St Boat ramp)

Dispatch: April 2nd 23:36

Under Control: Secured river operations April 3rd at 01:30

Resources: 4 Engines companies, 1 Ladder company, 1 Rescue company with 2 boats, 1 ALS and 1 District Chief.

1 Bedford mutual aid boat.

2 NH Marine Patrol officers.

Description of Incident: At 23:36 Manchester Fire Dispatch received a call for a person who had fallen into the river, down by the So. Commercial St Boat ramp. The caller met the first arriving fire personnel on scene and stated that a 37 year old male had a medical emergency. As the man regained consciousness, he became confused and partially entered the water, 100 yards north of the boat ramp at his encampment along the river. The man was retrieved, from the river by the caller and another friend, and then a short time later he re-entered the river and started to swim away from shore. The man was last seen by friends floating down the river.

Manchester Fire deployed two boats into the river and placed other companies strategically down river along the banks for searching. Bedford Fire deployed one boat to assist river operations, and NH Marine Patrol arrived and gave operational assistance.

Manchester Fire will resume the search Friday morning, with the assistance of NH Marine Patrol and NH Fish & Game dive team.

Civilian Injuries: 1

Emergency Service Injuries: 0

Special Circumstances: Darkness and moderate river flow.

Fire Cause: N/A

Estimated dollar loss: 0

Incident Commander: District Chief Andy Parent